Application No.: 09/840,482
Amendment dated: August 7, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 5, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A wire termination device for providing a demarcation with subscriber lines comprising:

a) a base having a plurality of insulation displacement connector type subscriber terminals and a telephone jack having jack contacts for interconnection with the subscriber terminals;

b) a moveable cover associated with the base to be selectively closed thereon; and

c) a conductive contact provided on the cover that is disposed within the jack when the cover is closed onto the base, the conductive contact having a portion that electrically connects with the jack contacts when the cover is closed, the conductive contact also being accessible from the exterior of the cover for providing a test contact against which a test probe may be placed to detect electrical connections established by the wire termination device while the cover is closed.

2. (Original) The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the conductive contact is recessed within a cavity disposed on a forward portion of the cover.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Previously presented) The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein the conductive contact comprises:

a bypass contact that is disposed upon an outer surface of the prong portion and positioned to avoid contact with the jack contacts; and

wherein the jack has a conductive member therein that is engaged by the bypass contact when the cover is closed, the conductive member being electrically connected to one of the jack contacts.

5. (Previously presented) The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein the conductive contact comprises:

a metallic strip disposed along a side of the prong portion and having an outwardly biased portion; and

wherein the jack has a conductive member on a lateral sidewall that is engaged by the metallic strip when the cover is closed, the conductive member being electrically connected to one of the jack contacts.

6. (Previously presented) The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein the conductive contact extends to a lower side of the prong portion and is positioned to physically contact at least one of the jack contacts when the cover is in the closed position.

7-12 (Canceled).

13. (Previously presented) A wire termination device comprising:

a base having a subscriber terminal assembly thereupon comprising a pair of insulation displacement connector type subscriber terminals;

a jack containing tip and ring contacts for establishing electrical connections with the subscriber terminals;

a movable cover for the base, the cover having a plug portion that is removably inserted into the jack when the cover is closed onto the base; and

a pair of conductive contacts provided on the cover, each of the conductive contacts being electrically interconnected with the subscriber terminals and presenting a test contact extending through the cover for placement of a test probe thereon.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Previously presented) The wire termination device of claim 13 further comprising a pair of test probe access holes in the cover to permit the test probe to contact each test contact.

16. (Original) The wire termination device of claim 13 wherein the jack further contains a pair of conductive plates that are electrically interconnected with the tip and ring contacts.

17. (Original) The wire termination device of claim 16 wherein the conductive contacts each comprise a bypass member having a leg that is brought into contact with one of the conductive plates of the jack when the cover is closed onto the base.

18-23 (Canceled).

24. (Previously presented) A wire termination device comprising:

a base having at least a pair of insulation displacement connector subscriber terminals and a telephone jack disposed thereon, the jack having jack contacts for electrical connection with the subscriber terminals;

a cover movably attached to the base to be selectively closed thereon; and

conductive contacts provided on the cover that are disposed within the jack when the cover is closed onto the base, the conductive contacts having a first portion that extends outwardly from the cover and electrically connects with the jack contacts in the jack when the cover is closed and a second portion opposite the first portion that extends through the cover to define a test probe and electrically connects with the subscriber terminals on the base.

25. (Previously presented) A wire termination device comprising:

a) a base having a telephone jack with tip and ring contacts for establishing a telephone wiring connection;

b) a cover hingedly secured to the base to be selectively closed and opened thereupon, the cover comprising a plug assembly having a prong portion opposite the jack; and

c) a pair of conductive contacts provided on the cover to be received within the jack when the cover is closed onto the base, each being recessed within a cavity that is open to the exterior of the cover for providing a test contact against which a test probe may be placed to detect an electrical signal indicative of the telephone wiring connection established by the wire termination device, each conductive contact having a conductive portion for making an electrical connection with one of the tip and ring contacts while the cover is in a closed position;

d) wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises a bypass contact that is disposed upon an outer surface of the prong portion and positioned to avoid contact with the tip and ring contacts; and

e) wherein the jack has a pair of conductive members therein that are engaged by the bypass contacts when the cover is closed, the conductive members being electrically connected to the tip and ring contacts.

26. (Previously presented) The wire termination device of claim 25 wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises a metallic strip extending upwardly from the prong portion of the plug assembly to present the test contact proximate an upper portion of the plug assembly.

27. (Previously presented) A wire termination device comprising:

a) a base having a telephone jack with tip and ring contacts for establishing a telephone wiring connection;

b) a cover hingedly secured to the base to be selectively closed and opened thereupon, the cover comprising a plug assembly having a prong portion opposite the jack; and

c) a pair of conductive contacts provided on the cover to be received within the jack when the cover is closed onto the base, each being recessed within a cavity that is open to the exterior of the cover for providing a test contact against which a test probe may be placed to detect an electrical signal indicative of the telephone wiring connection established by the wire termination device, each conductive contact having a conductive portion for making an electrical connection with one of the tip and ring contacts while the cover is in a closed position;

d) wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises a metallic strip disposed along a lateral side of the prong portion and having a contacting portion that is biased outwardly from the lateral side of the prong portion; and

e) wherein the jack has a conductive member on a lateral sidewall that is engaged by the metallic strip when the cover is closed, the conductive member being electrically connected to one of the tip and ring contacts.

28. (Previously presented) The wire termination device of claim 27 wherein each metallic strip extends upwardly from the prong portion of the plug assembly to present the test contact proximate an upper portion of the plug assembly.